

with us today—and they're standing over here—Anoa Hunter and Aton Kent-Trout, who wrote outstanding essays on "What United Means to Me." I just read their essays. I wish all of you could read them. I think it's an inspiring and important question for all of us to think about.

Congratulations to all of you, and now I'd like to turn it over to D.C. United's president, Kevin Payne.

Kevin.

[At this point, Mr. Payne and Coach Arena made brief remarks, and the President was presented with an official team jersey advertising Major League Soccer's primary sponsor, Mastercard.]

The President. I'll have to stay current on my Mastercard if I wear this—[laughter]—I like it. Thank you.

Thank you very much. Let me—before we close and I walk over here and we take a formal picture with the team—again thank the First Lady of Washington, DC, and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, and all the DC City Council members. I see at least three that I overlooked the first time. Would all the members of the DC City Council who are here stand up? I think they're all here. [Applause] Thank you. We have a quorum in case any of you have a particular problem you'd like solved. [Laughter]

And I'd also like to ask the student athletes and the coaches that I just honored in the Oval Office who have come here from around the country, who have done outstanding things. Many of them have overcome considerable personal obstacles to be outstanding athletes, outstanding students, and servants in their communities. I'd like to ask them to all stand please. [Applause] Thank you very much.

We're going to take a quick picture, and then we'll be adjourned. You can all stand up. We'll visit a little, have a little fun. Come on.

[At this point, the President posed for photographs with the team.]

Middle East Peace Process

Q. Mr. President, is another Middle East peace summit here a possibility? Chairman

Arafat, Prime Minister Netanyahu left open that possibility. Would you consider it?

The President. We're working on it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:37 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Cora Masters Barry, wife of Mayor Marion Barry; Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans, District of Columbia Council; Ronald J. Stratten, group executive director for education services, NCAA; Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority; and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of Israel. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Statement on the Resignation of Federico Peña as Secretary of Energy

April 6, 1998

Earlier today, with regret, I accepted Secretary of Energy Federico Peña's resignation.

Secretary Peña has admirably served my administration, first as Secretary of Transportation and then as Secretary of Energy. It is a measure of my confidence in his abilities that I entrusted him to run not one but two Cabinet agencies.

In his last year he diligently managed the Energy Department, focusing on energy, environmental quality, national security, and science and technology issues. Just last week Secretary Peña unveiled our Comprehensive Electricity Competition Plan, saving consumers \$20 billion per year, by introducing competition into the electricity industry. Under his leadership, the Department of Energy provided much of the analysis that gave me the confidence that we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions without harming the economy.

In the last year he helped shape our policy in the Caspian region, building a coalition among the key nations in that region; he provided a comprehensive national energy strategy for the Nation that will help ensure that Americans have affordable, clean, and secure energy supplies in the 21st century; and he privatized Elk Hills Naval Petroleum Reserve, generating \$3.65 billion for U.S. taxpayers.

During his 4 years at the Transportation Department, Secretary Peña increased the

level of competitiveness of America's transportation industry with more investments in mass transit than at any time since Woodrow Wilson was President. Secretary Peña helped to improve travel safety, signed aviation agreements with 40 nations, opened lucrative markets for American airlines, and oversaw a 25 percent increase in infrastructure investments.

I wish Secretary Peña, his wife, Ellen, and their three children the best for the future. I thank him for his invaluable service as a member of my Cabinet.

Statement on British and French Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

April 6, 1998

Today, France and Great Britain deposited their instruments of ratification for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York, thus becoming the first nuclear weapon states to ratify the CTBT.

I applaud this milestone in the global effort to reduce the nuclear threat and build a safer world. In particular, I want to thank Prime Minister Blair and President Chirac and the Parliaments of Great Britain and France for their leadership in paving the way towards early entry into force of this historic treaty.

The CTBT has now been signed by 149 states, including all 5 nuclear weapon states. In my State of the Union Address, I asked the Senate to give its advice and consent to the CTBT this year. The CTBT is in the best interests of the United States because its provisions will significantly further our nuclear nonproliferation and arms control objectives and strengthen international security.

Statement on the Breast Cancer Prevention Trial

April 6, 1998

Today's new research findings about the potential use of the drug tamoxifen to prevent breast cancer are an historic step in the ongoing fight against this deadly disease. Breast cancer strikes one in eight American

women, and about 180,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998. Each of us has a sister, a daughter, a friend, or in my case, a mother, who has fought against it.

The landmark Breast Cancer Prevention Trial gives us new hope that some women at high risk for breast cancer may actually be able to reduce their risk of getting this life threatening disease. It is an important contribution to our national battle to detect, prevent, treat, and finally cure breast cancer for generations of women to come.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the Lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979

April 6, 1998

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 7.

Remarks to the National Forum on Social Security in Kansas City, Missouri

April 7, 1998

Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Good morning. Thank you, Governor Carnahan, for your leadership on so many areas and your friendship. I'd like to thank